

AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows:

27. (Four times amended) A porous free-flowing fungal [extrudate] granulate formed by extrusion which consists essentially of intact dead [fungi] microorganisms or dead [fungal] microbial cells obtained by mechanical extrusion of a [fungal] microbial biomass, the [extrudate] granulate having a structure that allows a solvent access, via the pores, to the intact dead cells [in order] to isolate or extract a [desired] compound therefrom.

28. (Four times amended) A composition [comprising] consisting essentially of granular particles of intact dead [fungal] microbial cells from a biomass which particles

- (a) are obtained by granulating the biomass having a dry matter content of 25 to 80%;
- (b) have a dry matter content of at least 30% but less than 70%; and
- (c) have a structure that on drying allows isolation or extraction of a desired compound from the intact dead cells with a solvent through pores and/or channels.

30. (Four times amended) A composition which comprises dried porous granules consisting essentially of dead [fungal] microbial cells, the dried granules being obtained by drying granular particles, themselves obtained by granulating a microbial biomass, said resultant dried granules having a dry matter content of at least 80% and a structure that allows, via the pores, solvent access [of a solvent] to a compound contained within the intact dead cells to isolate or extract the [a desired] compound therefrom.

Please add the following claims:

--37. The granulate according to 27 wherein the microorganism is a fungus.

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38. The granulate according to claim 37 wherein the fungus belongs to the order *Mucorales*.

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39. The granulate according to claim ⁴²38 wherein the fungus belongs to the genus *Mortierella*.

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40. The granulate according to claim ⁴³39 wherein the fungus is *Mortierella alpina*.

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41. The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the compound is a polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA), optionally contained in a lipid.

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42. The granulate according to claim ⁴⁵41 wherein the polyunsaturated fatty acid is a C18, C20 or C22 ω -3- or a C18, C20 or C22 ω -6-polyunsaturated fatty acid.

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43. The granulate according to claim ⁴⁶42 wherein the polyunsaturated fatty acid is a C20 or C22 ω -3- or a C20 or C22 ω -6-polyunsaturated fatty acid.

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44. The granulate according to claim ⁴⁶42 wherein the compound is arachidonic acid (ARA), eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and/or docosahexaenoic acid (DHA).

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45. The granulate according to claim ⁴¹37 wherein the fungus belongs to the genus *Phycomyces*, *Blakeslea* or *Aspergillus*.

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46. The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the microorganism is a yeast.

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47. The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the compound is tetra-acetyl-phyto-sphingosine (TAPS).

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48. The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the microorganism is a bacterium.

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49. The granulate according to claim 27 wherein the compound is a vitamin.--